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interaction

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Est. 1828

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# interaction

## noun

in·ter·ac·tion [in-tər-'ak-shən](#) (n.)

[Synonyms of interaction](#) >

: mutual or reciprocal action or influence  
interactional

[in-tər-'ak-sh\(ə-\)nəl](#) (n.)

adjective



## Synonyms

- [commerce](#)
- [dealings](#)
- [intercourse](#)
- [relation](#)

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## Example Sentences

she guessed from the friendly *interaction* that they were close to the other parents in the organization  
Recent Examples on the Web The Canadian neighbors had developed a distaste for each other after arguing for months, but an *interaction* in May 2021 upped the ante. —Kyle Melnick, *Washington Post*, 10 Mar. 2023 Stress

and anxiety, along with PTSD, can also put people at risk for these kinds of thoughts, Vasan says, and anything from a dream to an overwhelming *interaction* at work can set them off. —Alexa Mikhail, *Fortune Well*, 8 Mar. 2023 An even more notable *interaction* between the two occurred in November, during a World Cup event in Heerenveen. —Kevin Draper, *New York Times*, 2 Mar. 2023 [See More](#)

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'interaction.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback.](#)

## Word History

### First Known Use

1832, in the meaning defined [above](#)

### Time Traveler

The first known use of *interaction* was in 1832

[See more words from the same year](#)

## Dictionary Entries Near *interaction*

[interactant](#)

interaction

[interactionism](#)

[See More Nearby Entries >](#)

## Cite this Entry

### Style

MLA

“Interaction.” *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/interaction>. Accessed 23 Mar. 2023.

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## Kids Definition

interaction

noun

in·ter·ac·tion [int-ə- 'rak-shən](#) (n.)

: the action or influence of people, groups, or things on one another  
interactional

[-shnəl](#) (adj.)

-shən-əl

adjective

## Medical Definition

interaction

noun

in·ter·ac·tion [int-ə- 'rak-shən](#) (n.)

: mutual or reciprocal action or influence

interaction of the heart and lungs

interactional

[-shnəl, -shən-əl](#) (adj.)

adjective

## More from Merriam-Webster on *interaction*

English: [Translation of \*interaction\* for Spanish Speakers](#)

Britannica English: [Translation of \*interaction\* for Arabic Speakers](#)

Last Updated: 13 Mar 2023 - Updated example sentences

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# symbiosis

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## Challenging Standardized Test Words, Vol. 2

- The business's new computer system proved not to be a *panacea*.

[Costly burden](#)

[Cure-all](#)

[Obstacle](#)

[Secure space](#)

Hear a word and type it out.  
How many can you get right?

**TAKE THE QUIZ**

---

Can you make 12 words with  
7 letters?

**PLAY**

---

### WORDS AT PLAY

---

#### 'Apricity' and Other Rare Wintry Words

'Hiemal,' 'brumation,' & other rare  
wintry words

- 

#### 'Complement' vs. 'Compliment'

The distinction between the two is  
clear (now).

- 

### 8 Words for Introverts

Don't be surprised if none of them

- 

want the spot...

## When Were Words First Used?

- Look up any year to find out

### ASK THE EDITORS

## Weird Plurals

One goose, two geese. One moose,

- two... moose. Wh...

### irregardless

It is in fact a real word (but that  
doesn't mean ...)

## Bring vs. Take

Both words imply motion, but the

- difference may b...

## Defenestration

The fascinating story behind many

- people's favori...

## WORD GAMES

### Are You Feeling Lucky?

A charming quiz about fortunate  
and unfortunate w...

- [TAKE THE QUIZ](#)

### Famous Novels, First Lines Quiz

Can you identify these novels by  
their famous fir...

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### Spell It

Hear a word and type it out. How  
many can you get...

- [TAKE THE QUIZ](#)

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Can you outdo past winners of the  
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